REFUND DUTIES ON FRENCH SHIP ALEXANDRE.

[To accompany bill H. R. No. 110.]

MARCH 5, 1840.

Mr. Pickens, from the Committee on Foreign Affairs, made the following

REPORT:

The Committee on Foreign Affairs, to whom was referred the case of the ship Alexandre, of Bordeaux, report:

In this case, it appears from the letter of the Secretary of the Treasury, dated December 18, 1839, that the duties collected by William Littlefield, collector of the port of Newport, from the ship Alexandre, 23d June, 1838, were collected under a misapprehension as to her character, and the circumstances under which she entered the port of Newport. According to the note of the Secretary of the Treasury, the circumstances of the said ship's "arrival in this country have since been fully established by the French tribunals." It appears that, from some suspicious circumstances, her true national character was at first doubted, but afterwards those doubts were removed; and, upon demand made by the vice-consul of France for Rhode Island, the articles were delivered up, and a clearance granted to the ship.

The amount of duties paid was \$1,020 65; for the refunding of which

act of Congress for the relief of Mr. Eyerett, pessed the 29th of May, 1830; but, in the close of one of his letters on this subject, he holds the following language: 6 My regret at not being able to make a decision more conformable to your wishes is tessened by the consideration, that, even if the allowance were directed, an appropriation would be necessary before payment

the committee report a bill.

Blair & Rives, printers.

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